



Forest Insect & Disease Management

Report No.
79-3-41

AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY OF FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE ACTIVITY, CROATAN NATIONAL FOREST, N.C.

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Croatan National Forest

STATE: North Carolina

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 308,226

DATE: September 12, 1979

PERCENT COVERAGE: 50%

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 210

CREW: T.P. Russell, B.I. Hammond, W.A. Carothers

REPORT PREPARED BY: W. A. Carothers

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

To detect the presence of destructive forest insects and diseases adversely affecting the Croatan National Forest.

SURVEY RESULTS

Twenty-two spots of fading and or red-topped pines were observed (refer to map). The sizes of these spots ranged from 1 to 40 trees per spot (refer to table). In addition, twenty-one areas of suspected hardwood defoliation were observed (refer to map).

CONCLUSIONS

Southern pine beetle (SPB) is the suspected cause of the spots of dead and dying pines. SPB activity has increased in 1979 in several southern states including North Carolina. At present the cause of the hardwood defoliation is unknown. The suspected SPB spots and the areas of hardwood defoliation will be ground checked by FIDM personnel from the Asheville Field Office.

Field surveillance by National Forest personnel should continue to assist in early detection of damaging forest pests.

Table 1: Summary of Aerial Survey Data, Croatan National Forest, 9/12/79

Infestation Size (# Trees)

1		2-5		6-10		11-20		21-30		31-40	
Spots:Trees		Spots:Trees		Spots:Trees		Spots:Trees		Spots:Trees		Spots:Trees	
1	1	8	25	6	52	4	65	1	30	2	80

For any additional information, contact:

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